

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Despite advances in medical technology and research, men continue to live an average of almost 6 years less than women, with African-American men having the lowest life expectancy; and,

*Whereas*, Educating the public and health care providers about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and early detection of male health problems will result in reducing rates of mortality from disease; and,

*Whereas*, Men who are educated about the value of preventative health will be more likely to participate in health screening; and,

*Whereas*, The Men's Health Network worked with Congress to develop national Men's Health Week as a special campaign to help educate men and their families about the importance of positive health attitudes and preventative health practices; and,

*Whereas*, South Dakota Men's Health Week will focus on a broad range of men's health issues, including heart disease, diabetes, prostate, testicular, and colon cancer; and,

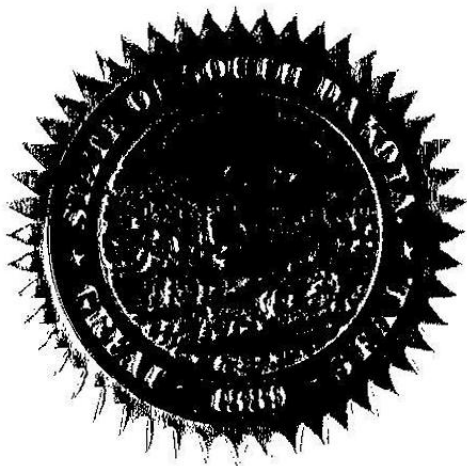
*Whereas*, The citizens of this state are encouraged to increase awareness of the importance of a healthy lifestyle, regular exercise, and medical checkups:


*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 15-21, 2009, as

### *MEN'S HEALTH WEEK*

in South Dakota, and I encourage all our citizens to pursue preventative health practices and early detection efforts.

*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twelfth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.



  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State